

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

These remarks are in response to the Final Office Action dated February 15, 2005.

Claims 1, 2, 4-15, 17-28, 30-39, and 43-48 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 4-15, 17-28, 30-39, and 43-48 have been rejected. Claims 1-2, 4-15, 17-28, 30-39, and 43-48 remain pending. For the reasons set forth more fully below, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are allowable. Consequently, reconsideration, allowance and passage to issue are respectfully requested.

In the event, however, that the Examiner is not persuaded by Applicant's arguments, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the arguments to clarify issues upon appeal.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner has stated:

Claims 1, 2, 4-15, 17-28, 30-39, and 43-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Raz (U.S. Patent no. 6,292,827) of record.

Regarding claims 1, 14 and 27, Raz discloses a method at (Fig.1-Fig.3, Raz) for accessing information on a network (2, Fig.1), the method comprising the steps of:

a) allowing a first system (12, Fig.3) to submit a query to a second system (18, Fig3, Raz); please note that the client terminal and server are correspond to the first system and second system.

b) processing the query with the second system, wherein the second system utilizes only information in a storage area not residing on the second system to process the query (see Fig. 1-3 and col. 4, lines 34-40 and col. 5, lines 5-10, Fig.5B; col.5, line 40 to col.6, line 7 and col.11, lines 6-22, Raz). The information resides in the external system that will provide for the second system's query whenever needed; and

c) utilizing the second system to return a result of the processed query to the first system (Fig.1-Fig.3, corresponding text and summary of Raz). ...

Response to Arguments

Applicant argues on pages 11-12 that "Raz teaches away from processing the query with the second system, wherein the second system utilizes metadata

that is only in a storage area not residing on the second system to process the query.” Examiner respectfully disagrees. Raz teaches in Fig.5B that the “client” system (12, Fig.5B), which corresponds to the first system, to submit a query to the “server” system (18, Fig.5B), which corresponds to a second system, wherein the server utilizes the metadata in the separated “control and management” storage area (see Fig.5B and col.5, line 40 to col.6, line 7, Raz). These metadata files are compressed at the server then be transmitted to the client where the files are decompressed and resided at (col.11, lines 6-22). Therefore, Raz clearly teaches the claimed limitation “processing the query with the second system, wherein the second system utilizes metadata that is only in a storage area not residing on the second system to process the query”.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner’s rejections. The Examiner has referred to column 11, lines 6-22, of Raz as teaching the processing step as recited in the present invention. However, nowhere does Raz teach or suggest in this section that “the second system utilizes metadata that is **only in a storage area not residing on the second system** to process the query,” as recited in independent claims 1, 14, and 27. Column 11, lines 6-22, states:

In order to **move information and applets from server to client** in the most efficient manner, a real-time compression techniques is implemented Upon receiving a request, the server determines what type of network connection exists. A fast LAN connection may be sent full quality, uncompressed files including text, images, video, and Java Classes. For slower WAN connections, **the server will compress the files in real-time, which will then be transmitted over the net and decompressed at runtime by the client.** Each type of information item has a unique compression method, which is most suitable for the specific item. For example, JPEG compression is used for images, CAB or JAR compression is used for Java Classes. The JAR technology is also capable of compressing data information and graphics in addition to the Java classes. For images, compression ratios of 1:10 can be achieved using JPEG, although some information may be lost. (Emphasis added.)

This section teaches away from the processing step, as recited in independent claims 1, 14, and 27, because Raz specifically states that the information and applets are moved “from server to client” where “the server will compress files in real-time, which will then be transmitted over the net and decompressed at runtime by the client.”

The Examiner has also referred to Figures 1-3, column 4, lines 34-40, and column 5, lines 5-10, of Raz as teaching the processing step as recited in the present invention. However, these sections clearly also teach away from the processing step, where “the second system utilizes

metadata that is **only in a storage area not residing on the second system** to process the query,” as recited in independent claims 1, 14, and 27.

Column 4, lines 34-40, of Raz states:

The network external system connection manager servers (10) shown connected to the network backbone (2) is the gateway to other content Provider external systems (11) shown connected to the network backbone (2). When an application requires information that is not on the network information database servers (8) but that information can be reached at some other content provider system, the network information database servers (8) establishes a connection via the external system connection manager servers (10) to the said content provider (11) to get the required information.

Column 5, lines 5-10, of Raz states:

External Devices (16) are connected to Java Applet (15) by Com Bridge (32). External Devices (16) are connected to Control and Management Agent (17) by SNMP (33). Visual Data Management (29) is connected to database (22) by Visual Data Insertion channel (31'). External Services (39) are connected to Services (20).

These sections merely lay out elements shown in Figures 1 and 3, and these sections do not mention that the server “utilizes metadata that is only in a storage area not residing on the second system to process the query,” as recited in the present invention.

In contrast to the processing step as recited in the present invention, where the server “utilizes metadata that is only in a storage area not residing on the second system,” Raz explicitly teaches that control or application intelligence (i.e., metadata) is dynamically redistributed and **resides on the data servers**. Specifically, column 2, lines 11-20, of Raz states:

In general, in another aspect, the invention features a method for transferring data over a network. The method includes establishing a data communication between client terminals and servers, generating a database of characteristic data associated with the client terminals and servers, and **dynamically distributing data between the client terminals and servers as a function of the characteristic data stored in the database such that a portion of the distributed data resides at the client terminals and another portion resides at the servers.** (Emphasis added.)

Column 3, lines 31-35, of Raz states:

The present invention relates generally to the field of information transfer. More particularly, the present invention relates to dynamic data transfer and management of information. Specifically, the present invention relates to a method of dynamic information transfer and management **allowing**

control or application intelligence and data content to be dynamically redistributed between data servers and client terminals including publicly located client terminals. (Emphasis added.)

The Examiner has also referred to Figure 5B, column 5, line 40 to column 6, line 7, of Raz as teaching the processing step as recited in the present invention. However, these sections clearly teach away from the processing step as recited in independent claims 1, 14, and 27. Nowhere does Raz specifically teach or suggest in Figure 5B or in column 5, line 40, to column 6, line 7, that the server “utilizes metadata that is only in a storage area not residing on the second system to process the query,” as recited in the present invention. As argued above, Raz clearly teaches that characteristic data is “dynamically distributing data between the client terminals and servers as a function of the characteristic data stored in the database such that a portion of the distributed data resides at the client terminals and another portion resides at the servers” (column 2, lines 11-20). In fact, column 5, line 40, to column, line 7, of Raz teaches a database model containing metadata, which represents the structure of the data and determines the laws of data (e.g., object types, property types, data types, link types, and languages), and this metadata clearly resides on the GS Oracle database and SQL database servers. (See Figures 8 and 9, and column 5, line 62, to column 6, line 7.)

A benefit of the present invention is that the second system does not have the burden of maintaining the metadata. Accordingly, the second system can behave strictly as a database processing engine (specification, page 5, lines 14-16) and therefore can process queries faster. Because the metadata is not maintained on the server but is instead maintained in the separate storage area of a separate system, a client will have faster access times and higher reliability than with conventional systems such as that of Raz (specification, page 7, lines 19-20). Furthermore, if the separate storage area is located on a client system, users of the client system can have

control over their data and can enhance their capabilities without interference from other users (specification, page 7, line 19, to page 8, line 10). Accordingly, because Raz teaches that the metadata is dynamically distributed between the servers, Raz does not provide the benefits of faster query processing, faster access times, higher reliability, and increased user control as recited in the present invention.

Therefore, Raz does not teach or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claims 1, 14, and 27, and these claims are allowable over Raz.

Remaining dependent claims

Dependent claims 2, 4-13, 15, 17-26, 28, and 30-39 depend from claims 1, 14 and 27, respectively. Accordingly, the above-articulated arguments related to claims 1, 14 and 27 apply with equal force to claims 2, 4-13, 15, 17-26, 28, and 30-39, which are thus allowable over the cited reference for at least the same reasons as claims 1, 14 and 27.

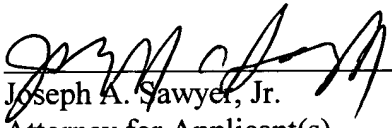
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-2, 4-15, 17-28, 30-39, and 43-48 are patentable over the cited reference. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims as now presented.

Applicant's attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP

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Date



Joseph A. Sawyer, Jr.
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 30,801
(650) 493-4540